

London Oct 22<sup>d</sup>

My dear Sisters,

I address you all together not only to save time and paper but because while I do so I imagine I can see and am talking with you. You wish to know my dear Caroline what style of drawing I have adopted and I hardly know how to answer you I have been drawing in chalk, pencil, and water colours so that I have not as yet done much in either but I hope to attain a sufficient knowledge of each to teach children. I suppose you would like to know something about the school I have just left but you know that while there I could say but little respecting it as if I had it would have seemed to Mrs. Elwell like gross flattery but now I can speak with more freedom respecting it. There were many of my own age and Mrs. Elwell's daughters in particular I found very interesting companions. I think the plan pursued there excellent as it respects the distribution of time



We never went out except to church  
(two and two) and once or twice a week  
to Richmond or Putney or Mortlake.  
But then we had a large and pleasant  
garden with high walls so that we could  
not see out and of course could expatiate  
better on the beauties of nature within.

We also wrote and performed a play!!  
Called the Rival Chiefs. I would give  
you a critique upon it if I had time  
you will think I ought to have a  
seat with the venerable father himself  
hung about with hourglasses and sundials  
since I make so much use of his name  
but the fact is that in London where  
a ll places time seems to hurry by  
only; the whole city seems to be in a  
state of feverish excitement and one  
unaccustomed to such a state of things,  
will find himself five minutes too late  
in almost every thing he undertakes.

But to the play — well, I was the  
Duke of Athol, and a principal character  
for it was my daughter who was the  
heroine. After the play we danced and



Mrs Elwell gave us a supper All  
the birth days are fetes and I am  
surprised at the manner in which  
they are kept here in general no  
such thing as letting your birth day  
pass by quietly. On Miss Alliston's  
birthday (a good daughter of Mrs E  
and also the french teacher and without  
exception the most amiable girl I  
ever knew) we had a fancy ball.  
It was the court of queen Elizabeth  
and I was Will. Shakespeare and  
did myself immortal honour  
with moustaches and a broad white  
collar like the prints of him —  
I beg you will all if you excuse  
my letters acknowledge that they  
have been of an inferior description  
but do not be too severe upon me. I  
shall perhaps come out bright as the  
methodists say some day however stupid  
I am at present. My dear Ann and  
Deborah will I hope remember me



Aunt Bath of me to Lucia and the boys  
that they may not quite forget me -  
I sometimes see things curious and  
ingenious which make me wish to see  
you the more that I may tell you all  
about them. I went with my Aunt  
and Aunt yesterday to see an exhibition  
of Glafs work the most beautiful you  
can imagine. We saw <sup>some of</sup> the wheels made  
A ship <sup>in length</sup> two or three inches with all the  
rigging, sails &c. was completed in a  
few minutes and with astonishing precision.  
Perhaps you will be pleased to know  
just where I am and how situated  
at present. I am in my own room  
a nice little carpetted place furnished  
with a ~~bed~~ table chest of drawers  
wash-hand stand, little hook rack  
and in short every convenience I could  
possibly wish Elizabeth has been at play  
here and has left the chairs standing  
round the table and I would almost  
become a Swedenborgian for the pleasure